

**At a Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Middletown,
RI held at the Middletown Town Hall on Monday, March 26, 2012 at
6:00 P.M.**

Council President Arthur S. Weber, Jr., Presiding

Vice President Bruce J. Long

Councillor Christopher T. Semonelli

Councillor Antone C. Viveiros

Councillor Barbara A. VonVillas, Members Present

Councillor Richard Cambra, Absent

Councillor Edward J. Silveira, Jr.

POSTED – March 21, 2012

Wendy J.W. Marshall, Town Clerk

Town of Middletown

Town Hall – 350 East Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island 02842

Dear Mrs. Marshall:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 203 of the Town Charter and in accordance with Sections 42-46-2., 42-46-4. and 42-46-6., RIGL, I hereby call a Special Meeting of the Town Council to formally consider, discuss and act upon the following items of business:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. Review of FY 2012–2013 Proposed Budgets – Parks & Recreation Fund, Refuse & Recycling Fund, Sewer Fund, Public Works and matters related thereto

Said meeting will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012, at 6:00 P.M. at the Middletown Town Hall, 350 East Main Road, Middletown, Rhode Island 02842.

Arthur S. Weber, Jr., President

Middletown Town Council

CC:

Town Council

Finance Director

Town Administrator

Town Solicitor

Public Works Director

Town Engineer

Human Resource Manager

Middletown Public Library

Refuse & Recycling Coordinator

This meeting location is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requiring interpreter services for the hearing-impaired should notify the Town Clerk's Office at 847-0009 not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said communication.

Also, present were Town Administrator Shawn Brown, Finance Director Lynne Dible, Deputy Finance Director Marc Tanguay, and Deputy Town Clerk Karin Clancey.

Dennis Turano, 182 Tuckerman Avenue, addressed the Council requesting clarification of the Council seeking no tax increase. Mr. Turano suggested a committee be formed to search for ways to reduce taxes.

Discussion centered around Middletown's financial status, no limit has been set for a tax increase, a five year plan for the Town's budget is in place and mandates set by the state, which must be funded.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown thanked the Finance Director and Deputy Finance Director for their work in preparing the proposed FY 2012-2013 budget.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to begin the discussion concerning the FY 2012-2013 Proposed Public Works Budget.

Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin and Town Engineer Warren Hall were present to respond to Council inquires concerning the FY 2012-2103 Public Works Budget.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown reviewed the Public Works Department Proposed Budget, entered here:

Mr. Brown noted that the proposal includes two additional seasonal employees, which will be paid by the Parks & Recreation fund, there

are no salary increases and health care has increased by 4%.

Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin reviewed plan projects, including small projects and catch basin repairs.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown reviewed the Engineering Services Proposed Engineering Service Budget, entered here:

Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin reviewed the Public Works Department equipment and vehicles.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown noted that new vehicles for the Public Works Department will be lease purchased.

Town Engineer Warren Hall reviewed Town infrastructure projects including High Street (road repairs, catch basins and sidewalks) and

Forest Avenue (sewer work within 2003 consent agreement with DEM).

Dennis Turano, 182 Tuckerman Avenue suggested the Council postpone projects that can be completed at a later date.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to begin the discussion concerning the FY 2012-2013 Proposed Sewer Fund Budget.

Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin and Town Engineer Warren Hall were present to respond to Council inquires concerning the FY 2012-2103 Sewer Fund Budget.

Finance Director Lynne Dible reviewed the Revenues of the Proposed Sewer Fund Budget, entered here:

Town Administrator Shawn Brown reviewed the Expenses, Debt Service and Capital Improvements of the Proposed Sewer Fund Budget, entered here:

Public Works Director reviewed the possible consolidations of Town sewer pump stations.

Dennis Turano, 182 Tuckerman Avenue noted the 6 million dollar reduction in the Sewer Fund asking the effect on the tax rate.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown, responding to Mr. Turano, explained that there will be no effect on the tax rate; the Sewer Fund is separate from the General Fund. The sewer rate payer will be paying less.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to begin the discussion concerning the FY 2012 -2013

Proposed Refuse & Recycling Fund Budget.

Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin and Refuse and Recycling Coordinator William Cronin were present to respond to Council inquires concerning the FY 2012-2013 Proposed Refuse and Recycling Fund Budget.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown reviewed the Proposed Refuse & Recycling Fund Budget, entered here:

Mr. Brown noted that there will be no increase in the Refuse & Recycling program user or bag rate fee.

Refuse & Recycling Coordinator William Cronin reviewed the tipping rates, co-mingling of recyclables (participants would require only one recycling tote), there are 3900 residents participating in the program and the seasonal participants.

Dennis Turano, 182 Tuckerman Avenue noted concern that the Town would lose money if extra totes are not sold.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to begin the discussion concerning the FY 2012- 2013 Proposed Parks & Recreation Fund Budget.

Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin and Recreation Director Tim Shaw were present to respond to Council inquires concerning the FY 2012-2013 Proposed Parks & Recreation Fund Budget.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown reviewed the Proposed FY 2012-2013 Proposed Parks & Recreation Fund Budget, entered here:

Mr. Brown noted that recreation and beach fees will be unchanged.

Recreation Director Tim Shaw explained that there is a 90% return of beach staff. Mr. Shaw noted the Town pays competitive wages for experience.

Discussion centered around the beach staff pay scale, overtime expenses, expanding recreational programs, Third Beach boat ramp improvements, railings at the beach pavilion, and restrooms at Berkley Peckham ball field.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown explained that it is a tough time to go out for bond for the beach building.

Councillor Semonelli noted that the Second Beach building is inadequate and in need of replacement. Mr. Semonelli requests continuation of this discussion concerning a new beach facility, at the next regular meeting of the Town Council. Councillor Semonelli asked for support from all Councillors regarding this matter.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown noted that there are no additional revenues available to fund a new beach facility.

Dennis Turano, 182 Tuckerman Avenue, questioned recreational services revenues, a loss in revenue and concession income.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown, responding to Mr. Turano, noted that a detailed report will be provided to him concerning his inquiries.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting at 8:39 P.M.

Wendy J.W. Marshall, CMC

Council Clerk

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